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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/537,401	11/21/2005	Hiroshi Tsuchita	Q88294	1465
23373	7590	10/27/2006	EXAMINER	
SUGHRUE MION, PLLC 2100 PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE, N.W. SUITE 800 WASHINGTON, DC 20037			TSAY, MARSHA M	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			1656	
DATE MAILED: 10/27/2006				

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/537,401	Applicant(s) TSUCHITA ET AL.	
	Examiner Marsha M. Tsay	Art Unit 1656	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-13 and 16 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-13 and 16 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____. |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>09/01/06</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____. |

Claims 14-15 are canceled. Claims 1-13, 16 are pending and currently under examination.

Priority: The benefit date is December 2, 2003, for the purpose of prior art.

Specification

The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities: the priority data needs to be updated.

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 2-13, 16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Brantman (US 4687782; IDS). Brantman teaches diet supplements comprising a combination of amino acids, i.e. branched amino acids, to promote muscle adaptation to strenuous exercise. In example 1, Brantman teaches a composition comprising leucine, isoleucine, valine, glutamine, and a whey protein, i.e. casein, soy protein, lactalbumin (col. 5 lines 60-65; claims 2-4, 7-10, 13). Brantman further teaches a method of supplementing the diet of an athlete comprising administering a solution comprising leucine, isoleucine, valine, glutamine, and a whey protein; and having the

athlete drink the solution (col. 6 lines 42-53; claim 16). In col. 4 lines 45-50, Brantman also teaches numerical ranges for the amino acids used in the composition: leucine (20-45 parts), isoleucine (15-40 parts), valine (15-40 parts), glutamine (10-30 parts) (claims 5-6, 11-12), wherein the relative proportions of the amino acids are preferably within 20% of the recited ranges (col. 5 lines 20-25).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Brantman (US 4687782; IDS). The teachings of Brantman is outlined above. Brantman further teaches a composition comprising: an amino acid mixture consisting essentially of carnitine, isoleucine, leucine, valine, glutamine, and a whey protein, i.e. casein, soy protein, lactalbumin (col. 7 lines 30-50), adapted for use with water as a diet supplement for facilitating the adaptation of skeletal muscle and liver to a program of strenuous exercise. Brantman does not specifically teach a composition consisting of leucine, isoleucine, valine, glutamine, and a whey protein.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the teachings of Brantman and formulate a composition consisting of isoleucine, leucine, valine, glutamine, and a whey protein, i.e. casein (claim 1). The motivation to do so is also given by Brantman, which teaches a composition comprising essentially of the

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branched amino acids, isoleucine, leucine, valine, glutamine, and a whey protein, such as casein, can be formulated into a diet supplement to promote muscle adaptation to strenuous exercise.

No claim is allowed.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Marsha M. Tsay whose telephone number is 571-272-2938. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F, 9:00am-5:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Dr. Kathleen Kerr can be reached on 571-272-0931. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

October 23, 2006

MP Monshi
MARYAM MONSHIPOURI, PH.D.
PRIMARY EXAMINER